SENATE BILL 2760 By Ford J

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 24, relative to motor vehicle warranties.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 24, is amended by adding Sections 2 through 5 of this act as a new Part 1.

SECTION 2. As used in this act "motor vehicle" means a passenger motor vehicle as defined in §55-1-103(d), which is sold and subject to the registration and certificate of title provisions in chapters 1-6 of this title in the state of Tennessee, but does not include motorized bicycles or motor homes.

SECTION 3. (a) Every manufacturer of new motor vehicles doing business in this state shall establish an informal dispute settlement procedure which complies with the provisions of Title 16, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 703, as those provisions read on November 3, 1983.

(b) The manufacturer shall include a guarantee with each new motor vehicle sold in this state that the manufacturer will provide and participate in arbitration hearings which comply with the requirements of subsection (a) for consumer complaints regarding the repair or replacement of any motor vehicle part, if the same is not covered by a minimum thirty-six (36) month/thirty-six thousand (36,000) mile warranty.

SECTION 4. The data obtained at such hearings, including the make and model of the motor vehicle, the specific repair or replacement part in question, and the disposition of the complaint, shall be forwarded to the state attorney general and reporter's office, consumer affairs division, for dissemination to the general public.

SECTION 5. The attorney general and reporter shall promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, Title 4, Chapter 5, on the manner in which the information shall be reported and disseminated to the public in accordance with the requirements of this act.

SECTION 6. For purposes of promulgating rules and regulations, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes this act shall take effect July 1, 1996, the public welfare requiring it.

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